

**Orange High School  
Course Outline / Syllabus  
High School Honors US History I**

**Instructor: Mr. Russo**  
**Email: russoluk@orange.k12.nj.us**  
**Classroom:**  
**Phone: 973-677-4050**  
**Principal: Mr. Belton/Dr. Morgan**

Parents are encouraged to contact me regarding any concerns regarding your child in my class. You can reach me at my email address or you can leave a message at 973-677-4050 ext 5088. I will do my best to return emails and/or phone calls within 48 hours.

**Course Description:** The content of the course will be based on the information required to understand the course of US history until 1865 and the skills required under the Core Curriculum Content Standards for Social Studies.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Distinguish valid arguments from false arguments when interpreting current and historical events
2. Take a position on a current public policy issue and support it with historical evidence, reasoning, and constitutional analysis in a written and/or oral format
3. Compare present and past events to evaluate the consequences of past decisions and to apply lessons learned
4. Analyze how change occurs through time due to shifting values and beliefs as well as technological advancements and changes in the political and economic landscape
5. Construct various forms of geographic representations to show the spatial patterns of physical and human phenomena
6. Relate current events to the physical and human characteristics of places and regions
7. Evaluate sources for validity and credibility and to detect propaganda, censorship, and bias

**Course Outline:**

Weeks 1 & 2- The convergence of Native American, African, and European culture after Columbus

Weeks 3, 4, & 5- The development of the Chesapeake and New England colonies

Weeks 6, 7, & 8- The development of the Middle Colonies and the Lower South- development of the colonial economic system

Weeks 9, 10, & 11- Immigration patterns of the colonial era, the impact of the Enlightenment on American society, and colonial social customs

Weeks 12, 13, & 14- Events leading to the Revolutionary War

Weeks 15, 16, & 17 – Events of the Revolutionary War

Weeks 18 & 19 - Political events leading to the signing of the Constitution

Week 20- Review for midterm

Weeks 21 & 22- The structure of the government and citizens rights

Weeks 23, 24, & 25- The Washington/Adams presidencies- development of political parties

Weeks 26, 27, & 28- The Jefferson/Madison administrations and War of 1812

Weeks 29, 30, & 31- Economic development of the US

Weeks 32, 33, & 34- The Era of Jackson

Weeks 35, 36, & 37- Events leading to the Civil War

Weeks 38 & 39- The Civil War

Week 40- Review for final exam

**Textbook:** “United States History & Geography”, Appleby, et al., McGraw-Hill Education, 2014

**Required Supplies:**

- Pencil / Pen
- Notebook
- Folder

**Note:** It is mandatory that each student have their binder every day in class.

**Note:** Parents/Guardians and administrators will have the right to look at the students’ notebook (binder) at any time. Therefore, students must always place their work in their notebook the day the work is given back to them.

Each student’s notebook (binder) will be checked and graded at least once every six weeks.

**Grading Policy:** Each six weeks, grades will be based on test performance, including document based questions, class presentations, completion of assignments, class participation, and group activities.

Tests/Quizzes- 30%

Authentic Assessment- 25%

Class Participation- 15%

Homework- 15%

Class work- 15%

Students may earn extra credit for additional individual projects – but only if they have turned in all assigned work. The highest grade you can make on late work is 70. All late work must be completed within one week from the due date.

Grades are available for review at any time before or after school. The midterm and final examination account for 20% of the overall grade.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned regularly in this course. Homework is a way to practice concepts covered in class. Practice is essential for mastery and success. Without practice, without doing your homework, you will not pass. Unless otherwise instructed, homework assigned during the week will be due at the beginning of next class. Late homework will be accepted but the highest grade possible for complete assignments will be a 70. It is your responsibility to turn in your homework on time. Homework done timely will help you assess your understanding and need for support.

**Projects:** There will be assigned one to two small individual and/or group US History I project(s) every six weeks. Each project will be assigned toward the first part of the six weeks.

**Tests:** You should expect 2 tests and a 6-week's test in each 6-week grading period. These tests will cover the concepts covered during class. To be successful, you should complete all assigned homework, participate in class, as well as review these topics prior to the exams. It is my expectation that this minimum degree of preparation will be done by all students.

**Make-up Policy:** Students who are absent are responsible for the work and instruction missed. IF you are absent on a due date and have an "excused absence" card, all work is due by the second day you return; deadline for assignments given on the day you were absent will be discussed. Students must be present on the day of a major test.

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:**

1. Be prepared for class in the following ways:
  - a. Bring your material to class everyday: pen/pencil, college ruled notebook paper, and/or binder.
  - b. Be on time and be prepared to begin as soon as the bell rings.
2. Be considerate of other people's feelings, opinions and thoughts.
3. Pay attention and participate in class.

**Conference Period/Tutoring:** I am available to tutor students in \_\_\_\_228\_\_\_\_. Please refer to the following schedule for tutoring hours.

Monday-Friday: before or after school

If any tutoring times need to be changed; the changes will be announced and posted on my door. I am also available by appointment. To schedule an appointment you may reach me by school phone or email or students can schedule with me individually.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** Students will receive a copy of the Orange High

School Dishonesty Policy. All students and faculty will follow the policy as stated in the Student Handbook.

**Requirements to receive credit:** State law requires attendance 90% of class time. If a student fails to attend the required number of classes, credit cannot be given without making up time missed and approval from the Attendance Committee. One of the easiest things you can do to obtain your goal of graduation is to COME TO CLASS EVERY SCHOOL DAY!

**Note to Parent/Guardian:** I am looking forward to working with your child. I strongly encourage parent/teacher conferences. If needed, a conference may be set through the counselor's office. The more you know about your child's school performance, achievement, and behavior, the more we will be able to assist him/her to obtain his/her achievement and success.

Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions about this class. I wish you and your child much happiness and success this school year!

¡Saludos! Estoy contento de poder trabajar con su hijo/hija. Para asegurarnos de que sea exitoso en esta clase, creo fielmente en que usted y yo debemos trabajar juntos. Le invito a pasar por mi salon para poderle conocer. Tambien se puede comunicar conmigo via correo electronico ó por telefono. De necesitar una cita estracturada o hablar conmigo llame a la oficina y ellos gustosamente me pasarán el comunicado. Estaré dando tutorias algunas tardes, y les pido que anime a su hijo/hija a aprovechar esta oportunidad.

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Make sure this syllabus is in your notebook at all times!

COURSE OUTLINE/SYLLABUS AGREEMENT

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS CLASS  
AS OUTLINED IN THE SYLLABUS. I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES  
AND PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY THE INSTRUCTOR.

Student's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Current Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name:

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Parent/Guardian's Signature:

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Phone**

**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Current Email Address:**

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**PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED!**